



SINCE HIS ARRIVAL ON DECEMBER 14, MR. TUEINI HAS MET TWICE WITH THE SECRETARY. HE AND MEMBERS OF HIS DELEGATION HAVE ALSO HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY ROBINSON, AID ADMINISTRATOR PARKER, AS WELL AS OTHER HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT AND AID. MR. TUEINI HAS ALSO MET WITH MR. ROBERT MCNAMARA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD BANK, MR. WITTEVEEN, THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF), AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF

CONGRESS WHILE IN WASHINGTON, AND WITH OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK. HE CONCLUDES HIS MISSION TO WASHINGTON WITH A MEETING TOMORROW WITH UNDER SECRETARY HABIB AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON.

3. THE UNITED STATES STEADFASTLY SUPPORTS THE SOVEREIGNTY, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND NATIONAL UNITY OF LEBANON; WE WELCOME RECENT PROGRESS UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PRESIDENT SARKIS TOWARD THE REESTABLISHMENT OF SECURITY AND THE REVITALIZATION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROCESSES IN LEBANON FOLLOWING THE TRAGIC EVENTS OF RECENT MONTHS. MR. TUEINI HAS INFORMED US THAT LEBANON HAS SUFFERED AN ESTIMATED DOLS. 3 BILLION IN DESTRUCTION. HE HAS DESCRIBED THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT'S PRIORITIES: TO MEET IMMEDIATE HUMANITARIAN NEEDS, WHILE PRESSING FORWARD RAPIDLY TO RESTORE PRODUCTIVITY AND JOBS, AND BEGINNING THE MASSIVE, LONG-TERM TASK OF PHYSICAL RECONSTRUCTION IN WAYS THAT WILL PROMOTE SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ASSURE A SENSE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL OF LEBANON'S CITIZENS.

4. LEBANON POSSESSES SIGNIFICANT HUMAN AND MATERIAL  
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RESOURCES FOR THE JOB AHEAD, BUT THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THAT IT WILL REQUIRE ASSISTANCE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THE UNITED STATES WILL VERY SHORTLY BE SENDING TO LEBANON A SMALL TEAM OF EXPERTS IN KEY ASPECTS OF RELIEF AND REHABILITATION. THIS WILL LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR AN EXPANSION OF OUR PRESENT PROGRAM OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE IN COORDINATION WITH THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL DONORS.

5. WE HAVE INDICATED TO MR. TUEINI AND HIS DELEGATION THAT WE ARE PLANNING A PL-480, TITLE I FOOD AID PROGRAM OF DOLS. 20 MILLION SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE CONGRESS. THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO BE DEVELOPING PRIORITY PROGRAMS IN HOUSING BOTH TO EFFECT EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO EXISTING SHELTERS FOR THE WINTER MONTHS AND, EVENTUALLY, TO RESTORE OR REPLACE DAMAGED STRUCTURES. WE ALREADY ARE ENGAGED IN EFFORTS THROUGH VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST IN MEETING THESE

IMMEDIATE NEEDS. WE HAVE CONSIDERED WITH THE TUEINI DELEGATION THE QUESTION OF THE LONGER-TERM NEEDS OF LEBANON. WE HAVE AGREED TO EXAMINE POSSIBLE WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN BE HELPFUL, INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL EXPERTISE, IN RESTORING ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS THE REMAINING BEIRUT PORT FACILITIES TO SUPPORT THE RELIEF AND REHABILITATION PROCESS. WE ARE ALREADY AT WORK ON ONE POSSIBILITY: THE IMMEDIATE PROVISION OF SURPLUS HEAVY EQUIPMENT FOR INTERIM USE IN ;  
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THE PORT. THESE MOBILE CRANES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT WOULD ALSO ASSIST IN PRIORITY PROGRAMS TO REMOVE RUBBLE AND HAZARDOUS STRUCTURES, AND MAINTAIN VITAL ROAD LINKS IN MOUNTAINOUS REGIONS IN THE FACE OF WINTER SNOWS. WE ARE AGREED THAT PROGRESS IN THESE SPHERES IS BOTH IMPORTANT AND POSSIBLE.  
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6. THESE EFFORTS ARE IN ADDITION TO THE ASSISTANCE WE VIDE THUS FAR A TOTAL OF DOLS. 19 MILLION IN HUMANITARIAN AID THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC), THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL (AUH) IN BEIRUT, THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE (CRS), AND THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM FOR LEBANON. THESE FUNDS HAVE PROVIDED MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND SERVICES AND OTHER EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE IN NEED; WE ARE, FOR EXAMPLE, PROVIDING COMMODITIES UNDER A PL-480, TITAL II PROGRAM TO FEED 300,000 PERSONS IN LEBANON.

7. WE WILL CONTINUE OUR CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT AS IT LAYS THE FOUNDATIONS FOR THE COUNTRY'S LONG-TERM RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. SOME FUNDS FOR ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CURRENT FY 77 BUDGET. WHEN WE HAVE A CLEARER PICTURE OF THE CONTRIBUTION THE UNITED STATES CAN MAKE TO LEBANON'S LONGER-TERM NEEDS, WE WILL DISCUSS WITH THE CONGRESS POSSIBLE FUTURE PROGRAMS AND THEIR FUNDING. WE WILL ALSO BE IN REGULAR TOUCH WITH RESPECTED AND EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, SUCH AS THE WORLD BANK, THE IMF AND THE UNITED NATIONS, TO DEFINE FURTHER THE ROLE THE UNITED STATES CAN AND SHOULD PLAY IN SUPPORT OF THESE EFFORTS, WHICH ENJOY OUR SYMPATHY AND CONCERN.

8. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESS GUIDANCE WHICH WAS NOT USED AT DECEMBER 22 DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING.

QUESTION: DID YOU DISCUSS AID FIGURES FOR LEBANON?

ANSWER: AS THE STATEMENT MAKES CLEAR, WE DISCUSSED LEBANESE CONCEPTIONS OF THEIR NEEDS AND THEIR PRIORITIES FOR MEETING THEM. WE ALSO DISCUSSED WHAT THE UNITED STATES CAN DO IMMEDIATELY TO HELP. ON THE BASIS OF THESE DISCUSSIONS, AND THE RESULTS OF THE EXPERT TEAM GOING TO LEBANON THE FIRST DAYS IN JANUARY, WE WILL BE ABLE TO UNCLASSIFIED

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BEGIN PLANNING PROGRAMS TO HELP IN RESTORING LEBANON'S ECONOMY. AT THIS POINT I CANNOT DISCUSS WHAT THE MONEY FIGURES MAY BE. WHATEVER IS DECIDED WILL BE SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS.

QUESTION: DO YOU HAVE ANY BROAD ESTIMATE, AGREED WITH TUEINI, ON THE SCALE OF ALL FOREIGN HELP LEBANON NEEDS?

ANSWER: AT THIS PRELIMINARY STAGE, IT WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL TO DISCUSS FIGURES OF ANY INTERNATIONAL AID PROGRAM. AS OUR STATEMENT NOTES, WE INTEND TO COORDINATE OUR AID PROGRAM WITH INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER DONORS. LEBANON IS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF DISCUSSING NEEDS WITH OTHER POTENTIAL DONORS.

QUESTION: WHEN IS TUEINI DEPARTING? IS HE HAVING ANY OTHER TALKS IN WASHINGTON?

ANSWER: THE OFFICIAL PART OF HIS TALKS IN WASHINGTON CONCLUDE TOMORROW. I UNDERSTAND HE MAY STAY ON A FEW DAYS MORE IN THE U.S. FOR HIS PRECISE DEPARTURE DATE, YOU SHOULD ASK MR. TUEINI. HE IS IN NEW YORK.

QUESTION: WILL HE SEE SECRETARY-DESIGNATE VANCE OR ANY MEMBERS OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION?

ANSWER: MR. TUEINI HAS AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE SECRETARY-DESIGNATE VANCE TOMORROW MORNING IN NEW YORK.

9. FOR BEIRUT: PLEASE ARRANGE TO HAVE A COPY OF STATEMENT DELIVERED TO THE PRESIDENCY. TUEINI HAS SEEN THE STATEMENT IN DRAFT AND CONCURS WITH BOTH THE SUBSTANCE AND TIMING OF RELEASE.  
ROBINSON

HAVE ALREADY MADE AVAILABLE. SPECIFICALLY, WE HAVE PRO-

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